and other property including the railway property;

(b) the details of the militant, anti-social and other organisations Indian and foreign, found involved in these blasts; and

(c) the steps taken to bring the culprits to book and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) 168 blasts including RDX explosions took place in Jammu and Kashmir during the current year (upto April 15, 1997) in which 69 persons were killed, 26 houses, 10 shops and one school buildings and 6 vehicles were damaged. In the rest of the country, as per information available, 27 blasts were reported killing 12 persons and injuring 85. Details of damage caused to public property etc. in states other than Jammu and Kashmir is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) There are various militant groups which are involved in these acts and these groups are aided and abetted by Pakistani Intelligence Agency, ISI. The main organisations involved in Jammu and Kashmir are Hizbul Mujahideen, Harkat-ul-Ansar, Bashkar-e-Toiba, Al-Jahad, Tahreed-Ul-Mujahideen etc. Various steps have been taken which include vigil on the border and indepth areas, increase in Naka parties, establishment of pickets manned by security forces at important places etc. Other steps include gearing up of intelligence machinery, stricter enforcemnt of existing regulations and close coordination between the concerned Central and State agencies. In addition, action against the arrested militants is taken under the relevant provisions of law.

Lower calories of Food for BSF Constables

3416. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fifth Pay Commission has recommended 2900 calories of food for BSF constables against the requirement of 3850 calories prescribed by the Nutrition Advisory Council and Medical Council of India for such category of personnel; and

(b) if so, the reasons for recommending lower calories to them as compared to Army Personnel deployed in the similar border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. BSF non-gazetted personnel are allowed ration money equivalent of 2900 calories. However, BSF personnel deployed under operational control of Army are allowed ration at par with Army. The Fifth Pay Commission has recommended payment of Ration money allowance at the existing scale.

Demand for Official Status to Maithili Language

3417. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA:
SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the discontentment and disaffection amongst the more than 25 million Mathili speaking people of Bihar over the issue of grant of official status to Maithili language which has been hanging fire for more than three decades;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the demand of Sahitya Academy for immediate inclusion of Mathili language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution of India and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the legislation is proposed to be brought forward in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Representations for inclusion of several languages, including Maithili, in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution of India have been received from various quarters. A Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Official Language) in order the evolve a set of objective criteria with reference to which all such proposals can be examined and finally disposed of.

No demand from the Sahitya Academy for immediate inclusion of Maithili in the Eights Schedule of the Constitution of India has been received.

Tunnel Dug up in Punjab by ISI

3418. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a tunnel between Channa and Panj guraian border out posts in the Ajnala Sub-Division in Punjab was recently discovered by the Security Forces suspected to be dug by Pakistan's ISI;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A tunnel 116 feet long and 2/3 feet diameter was discovered between BOP Channa and Panj guraian in the Ajnala sector of Amritsar district on 14th March, 1997 by BSF personnel but it is not known whether the same was dug by Pakistan's ISI or some other smugglers/trans-border criminals at the instance of Pakistan, ISI.

(c) BSF (Punjab) is carrying out through search of the area falling in between Zero line and the fencing to foil any other such attempts. Also the troops have been briefed and alerted and utmost vigillance is being kept during day and night in sensitive areas ahead of the fencing.

रेलवे पुलिस के जवानों द्वारा रेल-यात्रियों का लूटा जाना

3419. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) रेलवे पुलिस के जवानों द्वारा वर्ष 1996-97 में किन-किन घटनाओं में रेल यात्रियों को लूटा गया, लूटे गए व्यक्तियों की संख्या कितनी थी और इस घटनाओं में कुल कितनी राशि लूटी गई है; और

(ख) कितने मामलों में कार्यवाही की गई है, कितने लोगों पर मुकदमें चल रहे हैं और कितना माल बरामद किया जा चुका है, घटना-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मो० मकबूल डार): (क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

दिल्ली के पार्कों में नव-दंपतियों से पुलिस द्वारा जबरन पैसे वसूल किया जाना

3420. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
श्री राम गोपाल यादव:

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली में जगह-जगह बनाये गये पार्कों/पर्यटक स्थलों का क्या प्रयोजन है;

(ख) क्या यह सत्य है कि पार्कों में आने वाले लोगों जिनमें नव-दम्पति भी होते हैं के साथ पुलिस कार्मिक दुर्व्यवहार करते हैं एवं उनसे जबरन पैसे वसूल करते हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सत्य है कि यमुना नदी के किनारे देश के दिवंगत महान राजनेताओं के समाधि स्थल पर लोग पर्यटन के बहाने गंदी/अश्लील हरकतें करते हैं और उन सबमें पुलिस की मिली भगत है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार इसे रोकने और स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए क्या कदम उठाने पर विचार कर रही है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मो० मकबूल डार): (क) दिल्ली म अनेक स्थानों पर विकसित पार्कों/पर्यटक स्थलों का प्रयोग शहर के सौन्दर्यीकरण, पर्यावरण सुधार और जनता द्वारा पिकनिक के प्रयोजनार्थ किया जाता है।

(ख) 1996 और 1997 (30.4.97 तक) के दौरान